8

10

11

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An image processing apparatus, comprising: a storage device which stores input image data in a first area;

a refuging device which stores, in a second area of the storage device, sample image data produced from the input image data that has been stored in the first area;

a pseudo display device which outputs, to a display, pseudo image data obtained by performing a number of different processes for filtering the sample image data stored in the second area;

a parameter registration device which stores, in a third area of the storage device, parameters that are to be referred to for each kind of process that is performed for filtering the sample image data in the second area; and

a filtering device which, while referring to the parameters in the third area, performs, in a predetermined order, a number of different processes for filtering the input image data in the first area to obtain image data for output.

2. An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the filtering device sequentially performs, in accordance with an order established to minimize color information and spatial

1

.1

5

6

information reductions, a number of different processes for filtering the input image data.

3. An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, for the input image data stored in the first area, the filtering device performs, in the named order, a tone curve correction process for an RGB model, a saturation correction process for an HSB model, and a spatial filtering correction process.

- 4. An image processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the pseudo display device performs the number of different processes, in the same order as having been employed for the processes performed in the first area for the input image data, to filter the sample image data in the second area.
- 5. An image processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the refuging device generates the sample image data by reducing a size of the input image data stored in the first area, and stores the sample image data in the second area of the storage device.
- 6. An image processing method, comprising the steps of:

11

12

14

15

19

20

storing in a second area of a storage device, sample image data produced from input image data that has been stored in a first area of the storage device;

outputting, to a display, pseudo image data obtained by performing a number of different processes for filtering the sample image data stored in the second area;

storing, in a third area of the storage device, parameters that are to be referred to for each kind of process that is performed for filtering the sample image data in the second area; and

performing, while referring to the parameters in the third area, in a predetermined order, a number of different processes for filtering the input image data in the first area to obtain image data for output.

7. An image processing method according to claim 6, wherein the order in which the processes, for filtering the input image data in the first area, are sequentially performed to minimize the reduction in color information and in spacial information, and thereby improves the quality of the image that is output.

1

1

8. An image processing method according to claim 6, wherein corrective filtering for the input image data in the first area is performed in order in consonance with the sequential arrangement of tone curve correction for an RGB model, saturation correction for an HSB model in the input image data, and spatial information correction.

- 9. An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein the number of different processes are performed for filtering the sample image data in the second area in the same order as that used for the processes performed for filtering the input image data in the first area.
- 10. An image processing method according to claim 9, wherein the sample image data is generated by reducing a size of the input image data in the first area and storing the resultant data in the second area of the storage device.
- 11. A computer readable medium having recorded thereon a processing program for permitting performance of a computer, the processing program comprising:

a storage processing routine for storing, in a second area of a storage device, sample image

-37-

14

15

16

17

19

23

24

1

data produced from input image data that has been stored in a first area of the storage device;

a pseudo display processing routine for outputting, to a display, pseudo image data obtained by performing a number of different processes for filtering the sample image data stored in the second area;

a parameter registration processing routine for storing, in a third area of the storage device, parameters that are to be referred to for each kind of process that is performed for filtering the sample image data in the second area; and

a filtering processing routine for, while referring to the parameters in the third area, performing, in a predetermined order, a number of different processes for filtering the input image data in the first area to obtain image data for output.

12. A computer readable medium according to claim 11, wherein the order in which a variety of processes, for filtering the input image data in the first area, are sequentially performed to minimize the reduction in color information and in spacial information, and thereby improves the quality of the image that is output.

13. A computer readable medium according to claim
11, wherein corrective filtering for the input
image data in the first area is performed in order
in consonance with the sequential arrangement of
tone curve correction for an RGB model, saturation
correction for an HSB model in the input image
data, and spatial information correction.

- 14. A computer readable medium according to claim 13, wherein the number of different processes are performed for filtering the sample image data in the second area in the same order as that used for the processes performed for filtering the input image data in the first area.
- 15. A computer readable medium according to claim 14, wherein the sample image data is generated by reducing a size of the input image data in the first area and storing the resultant data in the second area of the storage device.

